



EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: BE A "THERE" FATHER!

Somebody once said, "You go to school to be trained for everything important. Parenting is perhaps the most important thing you will do and yet you enter it without training." There is a lot of truth and wisdom in that statement for both parents, but in my view more so for fathers. We learn parenting from those around us and especially our parents. It is fair to say there are more good role models for mothers around than models of good fathers.

The models we see are the "policeman dad"—present to be called upon to lay down the law, to insist on discipline and apply punishment and sanction where necessary. Just the mere mention of "wait til *yu fada come*" is enough of a threat to cause the child to cower in fear. Then there is the "provider daddy" model, where the responsibility is mainly provision of money and other things, mainly material things needed for the children. This is dutifully given to mommy who we leave with the responsibility for the other nurturing tasks. Many a father who cant play this role hide away from parenting not because of irresponsibility but mainly shame and are sometimes overwhelmed with a feeling of being less than a man.

These models are useful and are important to being a good father but perhaps the most important aspect of fathering is just to be there not for our children but with them. This is the lesson I learnt from my son about being a father—for daddy to be there to watch a television show with him, play football or any other game, to be available for conversations and to be with and do things with him. This was reinforced for me in a story I heard from my pastor of a man who went fishing with his son. They toiled all day and caught nothing. The man went home and wrote in his journal, this was a terrible and unproductive day I went fishing with my son and caught nothing what a waste. The son wrote in his journal/diary " best day of my life ever! Dad and I spent the whole day together on the river catching fish, it was so much fun and so wonderful! This is my reminder to myself this father's day.

God has shown us an important model of being a Father. He is always there! This is the example that fathers should emulate. Happy Father's Day to all fathers.

Rev. Glenroy Lalor
Baptist Warden, UTCWI

JUNE REMINDERS

- June Beginning of Hurricane Season
- 16th Fathers' Day
- 22nd Men's Conference (Ocho Rios)
- 23rd Evangelism Open Air Meeting
- 23rd Caribbean Baptist Fellowship Sunday
- 28th Open Day & Health Fair
- 30th Exchange of Pulpit

Family Month Activities

- 29th Games Evening & Competition at 5:30 p.m. Remember, your colour earns points for your group!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR AND VISIT the sick and shut-in members of the church and in our surrounding communities. Here is a list of our sick and shut-in mem-

bers: Sis. Audrey Maxwell; Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant; Sis. Ionie Thomas; Sis. Inez Graham; Sis. Percess Scott; Valerie Melbourne; Sis. Loretta Reid; Bro. Thomas Bennett; Sis. Gwendolyn Byfield; Bro. Archibald Henry; Sis. Daphne Reid; Sis. Violet Daley; Sis. Edwards; Sis. Georgina Peart; Bro. Lucan Scott; Sis. Adassa Reddie.

June Wedding Anniversaries



June 7th
Annette & Winston Tracey
celebrate 16 years of marriage



June 19th
Claudette & Victor Taylor
celebrate 13 years of marriage



June 22nd
Sherlette & Rupert Whilby
celebrate 36 years of marriage



June 25th
Winsome & Gregory James
celebrate 8 years of marriage

REMINDER

Do we have your picture on file? If not, we have extended the deadline for you to submit your pictures to be included in the Anniversary Magazine.

Please submit your pictures to Sis. Dahlia Palmer by June 16th.

June Birthdays: May blessings abound to you!



Dave Campbell
1st



Leanord Bucknor
9th



Micol Israel
9th



Marilyn Melvin
11th



Veronica Allen
13th



Daphne Reid
17th



Karlene Wedderburn
20th



Pauline Brown
23rd



Leroy Corey
25th



Joslyn Spence
26th



Beverly Peddlar
26th



Nicola Nagheer
26th

Family Feature month

We focus on persons who once attended Emmanuel. We ask them to share their fond memories of Emmanuel and to say what impact—people or programme—had on them while they were here.

PERRY EDWARDS:



First, let me say congratulations on the celebration of Emmanuel Baptist Church in celebrating 185 years of Christian witness in Port Maria and its environment.

I Perry C. Edwards, a native of St. Mary, migrated to this section of the parish in the year 1962. some time in and around September I started attending this church. I was then residing at Galina and would journey to church to attend Sunday School and the morning service.

The Word of God came to me forcefully at a crusade in the church being led by the late Rev. Spurgeon Smith who was the pastor and this led to water baptism in the year 1963. My first Bible is dated May 1963 from which I studied God's Word. I still have that Bible today.

I was fully involved in the church's life—sang on the choir, taught Sunday School, led at prayer meeting and most of all a number of us Christians from Emmanuel would join with Christians from the Church of God, Gospel Assembly, Methodist, and the Anglican churches and would go out in the highways and byways with God's message to the people in the districts of Paggee, Sandside, Bailey's Vale and Little Bay. Electricity was not so prevalent so the group of us purchased a tilly lamp and we walked with our tambourines and other instruments to assist in our praise and worship.

I was influenced greatly by Deacon Joslyn Spence and one of his exhortation that stands out as a reminder is his text taken from Ephesians 2:1-22 with special focus on verses 12-15. My favourite scripture passage is Psalm 23:4 which says "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for though art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me." My other mentors at the time were our beloved organist Ms. E. M, Bryan, Bro. Larkland Peart, Deacon Bennett, Sis. Lena Turnbull and Sis. Gladys Spence. These persons really gave me the motivation to walk with the Lord and in all circumstances I learnt to lean on Him.

Having spent about two years at Emmanuel Baptist, I grew spiritually so that when I had to leave the church for Kingston I was fully equipped in my Christian walk. Of course, as often as was possible, I would journey back to Port Maria some Sundays to fellowship with my brothers and sisters at Emmanuel. Then the late Rev. Dudley Stokes was pastor.

May God's grace continue to be with you all and continue to pray for me.



Thought:
The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature.

IMPORTANCE OF FATHERS

Two to three centuries ago, fathers' roles were primarily to serve as breadwinners and the conveyers of moral values and religious education to their children. However, with the advent of industrialization and urbanization and as factories emerged as major sources of employment, fathers became distanced from the household and their families which led to growing rates of abandonment and illegitimacy. Research on the role and importance of fathers suggests that the influence of father love on children's development is as great. Fatherly love helps children develop a sense of their place in the world, which helps their social, emotional and cognitive development and functioning. Children who receive more love from their fathers are less likely to struggle with behavioural or substance abuse problems.

Family Month Theme: Love Embraces All

On Friday, June 14, 2013, the second session in the family life activities was held. The points standing so far:

- Children (green) - 33 points
- Youths (red) - 22 points
- Singles (yellow) - 34 points
- Couples (blue) - 50 points

The final session will be on Saturday, June 29, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. Don't miss it!!

We welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please:

E-mail us at: emmanuel_baptist_1828@yahoo.com

Write us at: PO Box 64, Pt. Maria, St. Mary

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